

Helicopter Film Evening

By arrangement with the Royal Aero Club, Members of the Association attended a film evening at Londonderry House on November 23rd

A most interesting resume was given by one of our Members, Mr L Thornhill, of Sabena Belgian Airlines, on the control of insect-borne diseases by helicopter spraying in the Belgian Congo This was followed by a film to which Mr Thornhill gave a commentary

The film, which followed the lecture, included a number of sequences showing a helicopter spraying over the swamp areas in the vicinity of Leopoldville, and also spraying at roof height of the buildings in the town itself Mr Thornhill stated that far from there being any complaints as to the disturbance of low flying aircraft, the local inhabitants regarded the helicopter as a normal part of their daily life and were quite accustomed to seeing them flying almost in their back gardens He went on to say that what had previously been one of the worst malarial areas in the world was now almost free from the disease

The meeting culminated with a vote of thanks to the lecturer which was proposed by Colonel R L Preston, O B E , Secretary-General of the Royal Aero Club, and seconded by Dr G S Hislop, Chairman of the Helicopter Association

Book Review

Flight Handbook, 5th Edition Compiled by the Staff of "Flight "

This book sets out to give information on matters of interest to aviation enthusiasts It covers an extremely wide range of subjects, gives some historical background, basic explanations in simple terms of important basic principles and information on modern developments In a work of this sort it is difficult to strike a balance between technical and general matter "Flight " are to be congratulated on producing a well balanced book that is very readable and right up to date

The chapter on rotorcraft correspondingly gives a picture of historical developments leading on to a description of the more advanced present day types including those with jet drive rotors A section is devoted to control systems and mechanical details of the rotor head To a helicopter enthusiast the treatment is brief but in so general book this is inevitable , only the due proportion of space can be allotted

In general the book can be recommended as a useful sem. technical work of reference